

Message Text

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SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIALS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL

1. FOLLOWING IS A COPY OF THE STATEMENT ON SWITZERLAND
FROM THE 1977 EDITION OF THE UNCLASSIFIED SUBJECT BOOK
ISSUED BY S/NM. BEGIN TEXT:

A. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM: THE SWISS HAVE A RELATIVELY
MINOR BUT GROWING DRUG PROBLEM EVEN THOUGH SWITZERLAND IS
NOT A MAJOR TRANSIT ROUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT
DRUG TRADE. SWISS PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
ARE MAJOR PRODUCERS OF DRUGS AND DRUG-RELATED SUBSTANCES,
BUT CONTROLS ARE EFFECTIVE AND THERE IS NO MAJOR OR SYSTEM-
ATIC LEAKAGE INTO ILLEGAL CHANNELS. THE SWISS GOVERNMENT
HAS GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY TO ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION PRO-
GRAMS WITH REGARD TO THE INTERNAL USAGE PROBLEM.

B. DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS ON PART OF HOST COUNTRY: THE
SWISS HAVE CONTINUED TO STEP UP THEIR EFFORTS TO IMPOSE
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TIGHTER CONTROLS OVER THE USE OF ILLICIT DRUGS. THESE
EFFORTS INCLUDE MORE EFFECTIVE DETECTION OF NARCOTICS
OFFENDERS AND STIFFENING OF THE LAW ON ILLEGAL DRUG USE.
THEY HAVE ALSO CONTINUED TO IMPROVE COOPERATION BETWEEN

THEIR FEDERAL AND CANTONAL AUTHORITIES ENGAGED IN DRUG
CONTROL ACTIVITIES, AND HAVE AN ACTIVE "NARCOTICS WORKING

GROUP". SWITZERLAND HAS RATIFIED THE SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS. THE SWISS MAINTAIN REGIONAL COOPERATION THROUGH MEASURES TAKEN BY EUROPEAN ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, IN WHICH THEY PARTICIPATED. THEY ALSO TAKE PART IN REGIONAL MEETING OF CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVES ON CONTROL OF NARCOTICS TRAFFIC. FOR BUDGETARY REASONS, THE SWISS ARE STILL NOT MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNFDAC; HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPECT TO REVERSING THIS POSITION.

C. US PROGRAMS: THE SWISS CONTINUE TO BE SENSITIVE TO OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE IN KEEPING THEIR HOUSE IN ORDER. NEVERTHELESS, THE SWISS RECENTLY REQUESTED THAT WE PROVIDE DEMONSTRATION LECTURES ON NARCOTICS DETECTION (ON A NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS). WE MAINTAIN CLOSE LIAISON WITH BERN ON DRUG MATTERS VIA THE DEA OFFICE IN PARIS, AND THIS COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT HAS WORKED WELL IN PRACTICE. THE US-SWISS JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE TREATY WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE IN JANUARY 1977 SHOULD BE OF SOME HELP IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM OF ORGANIZED CRIME'S USE OF SWISS BANKING FACILITIES. END TEXT

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO REVIEW THIS TEXT AND REDRAFT, AS NECESSARY, AN UPDATED VERSION FOR THE 1978 BRIEFING BOOK. SUGGESTED REVISION REQUESTED BY COB AUGUST 10. THE SAME FORMAT WILL BE RETAINED. CHRISTOPHER
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